

311-3

23 November 1951

Major General William J. Donovan  
DONOVAN LEISURE NEWTON LUMBARD  
& IRVINE  
Two Wall Street  
New York 5, New York

Dear General:

I have had a file referred to me on a lawyer applying for a position with the Agency whose name is [REDACTED]. I notice that in his Personal History Statement he claims he had intimate contacts with certain people in New York while in business there, and among them he names William Donovan. Assuming that to be yourself, would you be good enough to tell me what you know of [REDACTED] and whether you think he might be useful to the Agency as a lawyer or otherwise? For your information, he was apparently working as a special assistant to the Attorney General from 1942-1944 in New York in connection with antitrust and war fraud cases under John Sonnett. Please don't go to any trouble to check into this matter, but any personal recollection you may have would be appreciated.

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Incidentally, your letter to General Smith on the OSS history has gotten results which I had previously been unable to obtain. As you know, the Joint Chiefs is the formal releasing agency, but they checked with General Smith and his office checked with me to see if there would be any objection. I, of course, had none and General Smith apparently felt that you had every reason to have a copy. Consequently, we are making a copy available to the Army for formal release to you.

I may come to New York some time soon and, if so, will give you a call.

Very truly yours,

LAWRENCE R. HOUSTON  
General Counsel

OGC/LRH:mls  
Orig-Addressee  
2-OGC

Since no answer was rec'd fr Gen Donovan on 12 March 52, file was returned to Personnel-"no interest or additional information".